

02-277

**From:** Christine Earl  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 12:55 PM  
**Subject:** Media deregulation

Dear Chariman Powell:

It is my strong conviction that further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq. As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. PLEASE! Oppose media deregulation!

Sincerely,  
Christine Earl  
Larkspur, CA

**From:** Bob Johnson  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 1:13 PM  
**Subject:** Ownership rule changes....

I am opposed to the proposed "ownership" rule changes that are being proposed. As a former broadcaster (16 years in the business) I was forced out because of consolidation. I have seen and I am currently seeing many of my associates being forced out of the business because of the same reason.

Broadcasters like Clear Channel have taken over MANY small, medium and large markets and turned the operation into "a money making machine" and have forgotten the commitment of local broadcasters to "serve the community". Power houses like Clear Channel have one goal in mind and that is to generate money....no matter what it takes.

By making additional changes to the ownership rules (as proposed), we are allowing major companies to destroy the broadcast industry.

Thank you,  
Robert Johnson  
Albany, New York

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**From:** GMKess23@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 1:20 PM  
**Subject:** consolidation of media

Dear Sir...It is a BIG mistake to allow any one media outlet to gain such a position of monopoly as to be able to own so much of the media outlets. There is too much of the media already owned by too few...we get almost constant repeat of the same information, and we get none of the truth that we can get by reading, and listening to foreign news. It appears that our media is either threatened, or bought off, because we have the same people owning all the outlets.....G. M. Kesselring

**From:** Jeff Chester  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 1:26 PM  
**Subject:** <No Subject>

I don't think it's a smoking gun, but does suggest that there are implications to what will happen, and what is and not being said by the media companies.

I hope SF was a pleasant experience. Thanks again for going.

**From:** Allison Stillman  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 1:31 PM  
**Subject:** Regarding the media control

Dear Commissioner Powell:

I am writing to express my opinions.

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq. As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

As an American living in the land of free speech, why am I not entitled to hear the truth? Why is our media so controlled now that all we hear is what corporate America wants us to hear.

I challenge you to stop protecting the Administration and report on lies about Iraqi weapons of mass destruction exposed in the print media, on its environmental record, on the huge cutbacks coming in education, social and health programs and veterans benefits as money is shifted to campaign contributors for work in Iraq or to the wealthy in forms of new tax deductions. Lets get back to the truth.

Allison Stillman

**From:** Bryce Edmonds  
**To:** Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 1:48 PM  
**Subject:** Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation

Dear Commissioners,

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Thank you.

**From:** MJMartin  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 2:00 PM  
**Subject:** broadcast ownership

Dear Mr. Powell

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Michael Martin  
Westport, Massachusetts 02790-1813

**From:** Netaka and Claire  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 2:22 PM  
**Subject:** Deregulation

Mr Powell, As one of many deeply concerned citizens, I write to urge you to consider the affront to democracy exemplified by the proposal to further deregulate ownership of multiple venues of the media. This country is already beset by the bias of a few large corporations who own and manipulate the news. The Fairness Doctrine must be reinstated and the will of the people reflected in the upcoming FCC vote.

Sincerely,  
Claire Artis



**From:** George A Ellwanger  
**To:** KM KJMWEB  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 2:31 PM  
**Subject:** broadcast ownership rules

Hello,

I am writing to you to ask that you please protect American citizens from illegal monopolization of the media.

Relaxing the rules of broadcast ownership would have a major, negative impact on the way Americans get their news. The long-term effects of proposed changes would allow giant media conglomerates to eventually control all radio and television news and information across our nation. This scenario has a several historical precedents, which are so recent that they should need no mention (like Iraq, Communist China, Nazi Germany, Communist Russia) where news and information was controlled by one primary source. There are lobbyists in Washington, DC now attempting to get you to relax the standards that currently keep this from happening. These lobbying corporations already have a proven track record of attempting to keep opposing view points off the air, thus expressing only one view point as "gospel truth". We Americans deserve to hear all sides of the issues, right or wrong. We are capable of making informed decisions, but only if properly informed. Democracy and freedom depend on protection of our broadcast ownership from monopolization.

Please ensure that our American way of life continues, unthreatened by the possible relaxation of these rules, that for decades have helped ensure healthy political debate.

Sincerely,

George A. Ellwanger, Jr.

**From:** Stewart Kraft  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 2:32 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast ownership rules

Dear Honorable Adelstein,

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Stewart Kraft

**From:** Jim Goyjer  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 2:34 PM  
**Subject:** Stop MediaOpolies!

Dear Mr. Powell,

If you let the cross ownership of the media and if you let the media be concentrated in a few hands, you will be responsible for helping with the demise of our democracy. No democratic system can survive when information is being controlled by the few. Please wake up! I am sure that if you wake up someday and realize that almost all the media is controlled by a few white men, you WOULD protest yourself. Please don't relax the rules anymore.

Jim Goyjer

**From:** drkathyg  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 3:18 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: fcc rules

----- Original Message -----

From: drkathyg  
To: mpowell@tcc.gov  
Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2003 2:35 PM  
Subject: fcc rules

Dear Mr Adelstein

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. Many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

sincerely  
Douglas N. Girard  
Charlestown, RI 02813

**From:** Singletary, George  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 3:39 PM  
**Subject:** NO TO MONOPOLIES!!

I have recently been notified of an upcoming vote to allow corporations to own more than 45% of any given market! We NEED free press, not monopolized press! It is already a chore to find a media outlet that is not already burdened with conflicts of interest....

please vote no...do not allow an increase in the 45% cap...

if anything, it should be lower!

thank you for your time

George Singletary  
American citizen and voter!

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, j@fcc.gov, 'adelste@fcc.gov'

**From:** Phyllis DeSimone  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 3:45 PM  
**Subject:** FCC

Thankyou for taking a stand!!!

**From:** Johnson, Debbie S.  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 3:50 PM  
**Subject:** FCC rule change

Mr. Powell,

It is clear that your loyalties lie with big business and that you have little or no respect for the individual citizen of this country. The efforts that have been made to keep this shell game from the American people is failing. Despite your effort, and those of the media giants who will benefit from this change, American citizens are realizing that you have sold them out, in order to benefit your wealthy friends. It is my hope that the political repercussion of your deceitful efforts will haunt you for the rest of your career.

Debbie Johnson  
Columbia, MO

**From:** Joseph Holder  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 4:06 PM  
**Subject:** Comments to the Commissioner

Joseph Holder (conquip@ix.netcom.com) writes:

I strongly agree with Jonathan Taplin's remarks at the media consolidation hearing. I strongly support the "Fairness Doctrine" and media diversity. Our form of government is founded upon the free flow of information. Monopolization of the forms of communication is NOT "free market" nor "competitive".

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Server protocol: HTTP/1.0  
Remote host: 68.185.68.119  
Remote IP address: 68.185.68.119



**From:** Jennifer Reed  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 4:07 PM  
**Subject:** no media monopolies

Chairman Powell:

It is imperative that we control corporate media monopolies.

I teach media studies at Cal State university Long Beach, and I am acutely aware of what feels like a crisis in representation.

Please lodge sincere plea to stop the current policy to allow more media monopoly.

Jennifer Reed, PhD

Lecturer

CSULB

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**From:** gail cauger  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 4:09 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast ownership laws

Your Honor, Please do not change the laws for media monopolies.  
Yes, they are harsh, but we the citizens deserve to be protected.  
I do not believe it is fair, or in the best interest of the citizens of this great country  
not be allowed to hear both sides of any issue.

I believe the FCC is currently being lobbied to change the current laws.  
Please, please, do NOT allow this to happen. The American people deserve better.  
We deserve to hear all sides of any issue, as I have stated. Consumer issues  
as well as political issues are involved.

Thank you for your time. Please consider and support not changing the laws.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Cauer  
60 Pleasant Street  
North Attleboro, MA 02760-1133

**From:** Matthew King  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 4:29 PM  
**Subject:** media monopolies

Dear Mr. Powell:

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies. These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jeremy King  
Trinity, North Carolina 27370-8409

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**From:** Robert Wallace  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 5:14 PM  
**Subject:** monopoly in media

i'd like to know why the fcc is thinking about lifting the ownership of certain media to 45%? please tell me where i can get this information or tell me yourself. thanks  
rob wallace

**From:** cynthia williams  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 5:29 PM  
**Subject:** FURTHER MONOPOLIZATION OF NEWS-AMERICA REJECTS THIS!

MICHAEL POWELL, CHAIRMAN  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

DEAR CHAIRMAN POWELL:

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT WE AS AMERICAN CITIZENS DO NOT WANT FURTHER MONOPOLIES OF OUR NEWS MEDIAS. THE IDEA IS UNJUST, UNWANTED, UNACCEPTABLE! WE DO NOT NEED ANY MORE INTERFERENCE TO THE "FREE PRESS" WE PRESENTLY ENJOY!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION.

SINCERELY,  
CYNTHIA WILLIAMS

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**From:** duke620  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 5:36 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Mr. Powell:

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protection that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Volpe  
Godeffroy, NY 12729-2022

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**From:** Dr. Michael Halperin  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 5:36 PM  
**Subject:** Comments to the Commissioner

Dr. Michael Halperin (michaelhalperin@sprintmail.com) writes:

As a professor of mass communication and a professional who works in television, I believe I have a unique perspective on the rush by the FCC to eliminate limits to broadcast ownership. Its actions hark back to an earlier era when radio first became a mass medium.

After World War I the U.S. Navy total control of the medium. Congress in its wisdom would not permit government control over the public's airwaves. In a sly move, the Navy and General Electric formed RCA in order to control all radio patents. Today we see a similar move in the consolidation of all broadcasting under a few, very large umbrellas.

The Radio Act of 1927 specifically forbade licenses to monopolies and required stations to operate for the "public interest, convenience, or necessity". The Communication Act of 1934 that formed the FCC required that broadcasters promote "public convenience or interest or serve public necessity."

Over the years we have seen the rights of the people slowly erode as each critical tenet of legislation has crumbled under the weight of convergence brought about by more and more radio and television stations owned by fewer and fewer corporate entities. Diversity of viewpoint that promotes the public good will only happen if we maintain the current rules -- although I believe we should return to the 12 station rule established in 1985.

The Telecom Act of 1996 provides too much leeway as it is. Although it places limits on one owner or one company to 35% of the audience, UHF counts only as a percentage thus CBS has 48% although under the percentage rules, the FCC counts it as 40% - still higher than allowed. This represents a cruel joke on the American public. They are the proprietors of the air, not corporations. They are the stewards of broadcasting, not conglomerates. The people represent many viewpoints and that diversity must be maintained by insuring that broadcasters live up to the mandate established by Congress over 75 years ago to insure that license renewals be based on the ability of broadcasters to promote the "public convenience or interest or serve public necessity."

In the interest of diversity and the promotion of creativity, the rules should not be changed. Five companies should not control the preponderance of broadcasting. That is not democracy, that is oligopoly.

Sincerely,

Michael Halperin, Ph.D.  
Lecturer, School of Film & Television  
Loyola Marymount University  
Los Angeles, California

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Server protocol: HTTP/1.0  
Remote host: 68.165.183.138  
Remote IP address: 68.165.183.138

**From:** HenryJB0@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 5:41 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast Ownership Rules

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Mr. Henry J. Burke  
Cheshire, CT 06410-4211



**From:** duke620  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, May 1, 2003 5:42 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast Ownership Protection

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protection that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Volpe  
Godeffroy, NY 12729-2022

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